

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 170

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 170, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive both military retired pay by reason of their years of military service and disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability.

S. 177

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 177, a bill to amend the provisions of title 39, United States Code, relating to the manner in which pay policies and schedules and fringe benefit programs for postmasters are established.

S. 214

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 214, a bill to elevate the position of Director of the Indian Health Service within the Department of Health and Human Services to Assistant Secretary for Indian Health, and for other purposes.

S. 258

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 258, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the medicare program of annual screening pap smear and screening pelvic exams.

S. 312

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 312, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief for farmers and fishermen, and for other purposes.

S. 423

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 423, a bill to amend the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the establishment of Fort Clatsop National Memorial in the State of Oregon, and for other purposes".

S. 503

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 503, a bill to amend the Safe Water Act to provide grants to small public drinking water system.

S. 671

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 671, a bill to provide for public library construction and technology enhancement.

S. 677

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Nebraska

(Mr. HAGEL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 677, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the required use of certain principal repayments on mortgage subsidy bond financing to redeem bonds, to modify the purchase price limitation under mortgage subsidy bond rules based on median family income, and for other purposes.

S. 699

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 699, a bill to provide for substantial reductions in the price of prescription drugs for medicare beneficiaries.

S. 710

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. MILLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 710, a bill to require coverage for colorectal cancer screenings.

S. 787

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 787, a bill to prohibit the importation of diamonds from countries that have not become signatories to an international agreement establishing a certification system for exports and imports of rough diamonds or that have not unilaterally implemented a certification system meeting the standards set forth herein.

S. 836

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 836, a bill to amend part C of title XI of the Social Security Act to provide for coordination of implementation of administrative simplification standards for health care information.

S. 839

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 839, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to increase the amount of payment for inpatient hospital services under the medicare program and to freeze the reduction in payments to hospitals for indirect costs of medical education.

S. 918

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 918, a bill to provide more child support money to families leaving welfare, to simplify the rules governing the assignment and distribution of child support collected by States on behalf of children, to improve the collection of child support, and for other purposes.

S. 1038

At the request of Mr. JEFFORDS, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1038, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve access to tax-exempt debt for small nonprofit

health care and educational institutions.

S. 1113

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1113, a bill to amend section 1562 of title 38, United States Code, to increase the amount of Medal of Honor Roll special pension, to provide for an annual adjustment in the amount of that special pension, and for other purposes.

S. 1114

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1114, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the amount of educational benefits for veterans under the Montgomery GI Bill.

S. 1125

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the names of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), and the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1125, a bill to conserve global bear populations by prohibiting the importation, exportation, and interstate trade of bear viscera and items, products, or substances containing, or labeled or advertised as containing, bear viscera, and for other purposes.

S. 1200

At the request of Mr. CLELAND, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1200, a bill to direct the Secretaries of the military departments to conduct a review of military service records to determine whether certain Jewish American war veterans, including those previously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, or Air Force Cross, should be awarded the Medal of Honor.

S. 1208

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1208, a bill to combat the trafficking, distribution, and abuse of Ecstasy (and other club drugs) in the United States.

S. 1271

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. MILLER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1271, a bill to amend chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, for the purpose of facilitating compliance by small business concerns with certain Federal paperwork requirements, to establish a task force to examine the feasibility of streamlining paperwork requirements applicable to small business concerns, and for other purposes.

S. 1274

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S.

1274, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide programs for the prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation of stroke.

S. 1286

At the request of Mrs. CARNAHAN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1286, a bill to provide for greater access to child care services for Federal employees.

S. RES. 143

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) and the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. CARNAHAN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 143, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the development of educational programs on veterans' contributions to the country and the designation of the week of November 11 through November 17, 2001, as "National Veterans Awareness Week."

S. RES. 146

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 146, a resolution designating August 4, 2001, as "Louis Armstrong Day."

S. CON. RES. 56

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 56, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that a commemorative postage stamp should be issued by the United States Postal Service honoring the members of the Armed Forces who have been awarded the Purple Heart.

S. CON. RES. 59

At the request of Mr. HUTCHINSON, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS), the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 59, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that there should be established a National Community Health Center Week to raise awareness of health services provided by community, migrant, public housing, and homeless health centers.

AMENDMENT NO. 1226

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL), the Senator from Florida (Mr. GRAHAM), and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1226 proposed to H.R. 2620, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. HATCH):

S. 1302. A bill to authorize the payment of a gratuity to members of the Armed Forces and civilian employees of the United States who performed slave labor for Japan during World War II, or the surviving spouses of such members, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Madam President, during the last Congress, I introduced the Bataan-Corregidor Veterans Compensation Act to recognize American veterans who served at Bataan and Corregidor during World War II and were captured, held as prisoners of war, and forced to perform slave labor to support the Japanese war effort. That bill helped bring attention to the plight of Americans captured and enslaved in the Pacific theater at a time when our Government undertook important efforts on behalf of enslaved victims of Nazi oppression in Europe. I believe that our government should also take action on behalf of those who were enslaved in the Pacific theater. Since the waning days of those heroes are quickly passing, the time to take action on this important matter is now.

Today I am introducing an updated version of last year's bill, now entitled the World War II Pacific Theater Veterans Compensation Act, to acknowledge the contributions of all ex-prisoners of war in the Pacific who were forced into slave labor by the Japanese. The bill would award a gratuity of \$20,000 to each surviving veteran, government, or government contractor employee who was imprisoned by the Japanese during World War II and forced to perform slave labor to support Japan's war effort. The bill would also extend that gratuity to surviving spouses of such veterans or employees.

I believe that this bill is both necessary and appropriate, particularly as those Americans who sacrificed so much approach their final years. Why is it necessary? First, because Americans who were enslaved by Japan have never been adequately compensated for the excruciating sacrifices they made while in Japanese military and company prisons and labor camps. In the War Claims Acts of 1948 and 1952, our Government paid former U.S. prisoners of war \$1.00 per day for "missed meals" during their captivity, and later, \$1.50 per day for "forced labor, pain, and suffering." Even those paltry compensations were not widely known about or received by all veterans who qualified for them. Second, this bill is necessary since ongoing efforts to obtain appropriate compensation from the government of Japan, or from Japanese companies through litigation, have been unsuccessful and are not likely to succeed in a timely enough manner to

compensate surviving veterans or others who would be eligible.

My colleagues might ask, "Why is this bill appropriate?" If enacted into law, it would have our own government recognize the vital military contributions made by members of the Armed Forces and civilians employed by the government in the Pacific theater, and would compensate those heroes for the many sacrifices they were forced to make at the hands of their Japanese captors. From December 1941 to April 1942, for example, American military forces stationed in the Philippines fought valiantly for almost six months against overwhelming Japanese military forces on the Bataan peninsula. As a result of that prolonged conflict, U.S. forces prevented Japan from achieving its strategic objective of capturing Australia and thereby dooming Allied hopes in the Pacific theater from the outset of the war.

Once captured by the Japanese, American prisoners of war in the Philippines endured the infamous "Death March" during which approximately 730 Americans died to the notorious Japanese prison camp north of Manila. Of the survivors of the March, more than 5,000 more Americans perished during the first six months of captivity. The Japanese forced many of those who survived captivity to embark on "hell ships"—unmarked merchant ships—to be transported to Japan to work as slave laborers in company-owned mines, shipyards, and factories. How tragic and cruel it was that many of our own men perished in those unmarked vessels, victims of attacks by American military aircraft and submarines who unknowingly caused their demise! The stories of other American military and civilian employees captured by the Japanese at Wake Island, Java, Manchuria, Taiwan, and other locations in the Pacific and enslaved to support the war effort are equally compelling.

This bill is also appropriate because it reflects international precedents by Allied nations to honor their enslaved veterans in the way which I propose in this bill. Allied governments, including Canada, New Zealand, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom have authorized compensation gratuities. In 1998, the Canadian Government authorized the payment of \$15,600 (Canadian dollars) to veterans who were captured in Hong Kong and enslaved by the Japanese. Last October, Prime Minister Tony Blair announced a multi-million pound compensation fund for former enslaved Japanese prisoners of war in recognition of their heroic experiences. Given those important precedents by our Allies, is it no less appropriate for our own nation to compensate those who gave so much to defend and preserve our freedom? Surely, the denial of personal freedom; the severe physical punishment; the lifetime of health